RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 6th August, 1986/15 Sravana, 1908 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock. Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Selection of students to attend "Camp America"

*281. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that out of twenty students only seventeen were selected to attend "Camp America" recently as Counsellors for three months;

(b) if so, what were the criteria for their selection;

(c) whether the applications in this regard were invited through advertisements in the newspapers; and

(d) if not, what were the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) There is no Scheme as "Camp America" in the Ministry of Human Resource Development under which students are sponsored.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Sir, it is true, as is evident from the answer, that this is not a programme of the Human Resource Development Ministry. I also understand that it is some private organisation. If that is the case, my only question is when it is involving school children—as many as seventeen—who have to pay huge amounts, is the Government thinking of laying down some guidelines for the benefit of such organisations?

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Sir, it is a private body and Government has got no information about it. What can we say about it if we do not have any information? It is a private body, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question, 282.

SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: It may be a private organisation, but is the Government not expected to have any information?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please refer to the rules. You can ask questions only in respect of matters in which Government has responsibility.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Sir, I was not questioning it. I started by saying so. I was only asking, will the Government lay down some guidelines for effective utilization by these agencies? Nothing more.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: This is a mixed economy. You can do anything.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: I fully agree with that. There is no doubt about it. My only question was, while I myself said that there is no connection perhaps, as stated by the Minister, between this and ultimately what has happened, I was only requesting whether the Government will think in terms of laying down some guidelines for the use of these private agencies. Otherwise there is a possibility of the whole thing being misused. Therefore, I was simply asking this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not allowed. Next Question, 282.

Unauthorised railway agencies

*282. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some unauthorised agencies in Delhi particularly in the New Amrit Kaur Market opposite New Delhi Railway Station are carrying on the business of procuring and supplying railway tickets for travel on the railways or for reserved accommodation for journey in trains;